

Diploma in Leadership and Management

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The purpose of this course is to provide aspiring or current managers adequate and critical knowledge of management and leadership related to the 21st century organisation. The course covers the key elements of what makes a successful manager in business whether managing finances, operations and people or current strategy and leading change in the digital age.

The programme, is aimed at mid-managers who are seeking to upgrade their knowledge in these key areas in order to enhance their performance, their team's effectiveness and the competitiveness of the organisation they currently work in.

A unique feature, of the programme is the opportunity for each candidate to carry out a managerial research project which allows students to research in-depth about an issue/problem faced by organisations.

The course is devised to ensure that candidates are provided with the necessary skills and knowledge in each of the compulsory units and are assessed through practical application using an organisational context they are familiar with.

TARGET CANDIDATES

Middle managers, who wish to develop and grow professional management skills including problem solving and decision-making, strategic thinking, financial management, leading people and managing team dynamics, in order to further pursue their career.

DURATION 14 Months

CREDIT VALUE 60 ECTS/ECVET

MODE OF TRAINING Lectures, case studies, simulations, group work, projects and student presentations, examinations.

ASSESSMENT Assignments and reports, group projects, and portfolios, presentations, case studies, examinations and a business research project at the end.

In order to successfully complete the course a minimum of a pass must be obtained in the assessment of each Unit.

AWARDING BODY Level 5 Diploma in Leadership and Management

LECTURERS

Joseph Bugeja
Ivan Bartolo
Robert Cassar

COURSE STRUCTURE

UNIT 1: LEADING PEOPLE (10 CREDITS)

“Leading People” very much emphasizes on how to get the best people and the best out of people so that they work in roles and in ways that are closely aligned to organisational objectives. The purpose of this unit is to introduce students within the organizational context of managing and leading people while providing students with the necessary theoretical knowledge. While also providing practical application of leading and managing people focusing on necessary leadership skills and an understanding of human resource management.

UNIT 2: MANAGING INFORMATION (5 CREDITS)

This unit, is designed to develop knowledge and understanding of managing information and knowledge in an organization. Students will learn how to manage information and knowledge within organisations, including the relationship between data, information and knowledge as well as the benefits information and knowledge management brings to organisations. A key contributor of this unit focuses on the role of ICT in managing information and knowledge, including how ICT affects organisational communication and how ICT can be used to disseminate knowledge throughout the organisation. Students will also be given an understanding about the link between knowledge management strategy and competitive advantage, including the importance of maintaining continuous learning culture in a changing environment, how knowledge management strategies and processes facilitate and support organisational learning as well as the relationship between organisational learning and competitive advantage.

UNIT 3: MANAGING FINANCE (10 CREDITS)

This unit explores how to analyse the financial health of a business in respect of its profitability and stability. All businesses need to produce accounts in order to have an insight into their financial position. Balance sheets provide information on the sources of finance and how they are then used within the business. On the other hand, income statements measure the profit position of businesses. In addition, managers need financial information to support decision making. Consideration will be given to management accounting and how it is used in the decision making process. It helps answer questions about what price to charge for a product or service so it is not sold at a loss, whether to make or buy a product and which amongst alternative capital investments should be chosen. Managing finance provides the techniques that help measure whether a business is sustainable into the future and whether it is meeting its objectives.

UNIT 4: LEADING STRATEGY (10 CREDITS)

The aim of this unit is to help students to develop a capability for strategic management with the recognition of the growing importance of businesses operating in the context of global business management. This unit will study the role of strategic planning and management in an organisation and how internal and external environmental factors can influence the planning process. Various factors are weighed in developing strategy including the influence of the external environment, the business' mission and the degree of risk associated with strategic options. The unit also considers strategies to aid the organisation to achieve competitive advantage.

UNIT 5: MANAGING OPERATIONS (5 CREDITS)

The aim of this unit is to give students an understanding of the activities that make up operations management, including the main types of operations found within business, how all operational activities can be represented as systems and the characteristics which differentiate operational systems. The unit also focuses on the relationship between operations and business performance, including how the operations function supports business performance, the main internal measures of success used by businesses and how internal measures of success link to business objectives.

Emphasis is also given on the importance of administration in operations management, including the relationship between operations and administrative management, the process and functional approaches to operations management, the relationship between operations and the supply chain and the link between operations and quality management.

UNIT 6: LEADING CHANGE (5 CREDITS)

This unit deals with the importance of innovation and change within an organisation, and how leading change in the organisation culture can promote innovation. The focus of this unit is on key principles, theories and

models relating to change and the role of communication and relationship management within change processes. Students will learn how leading change allows employees to be encouraged and supported to innovate and change by seeing such developments as opportunities rather than as threats. Consideration will be given to how change may have some negative impact but that the aim is to ensure that this is outweighed by the beneficial impact. Change requires all stakeholders to be kept informed and engaged but it underpins businesses' drive to maintain their competitive advantage and to achieve their goals.

UNIT 7: MANAGEMENT RESEARCH METHODOLOGY (5 CREDITS)

The Management Research Project is a substantial piece of work marking the culmination of student learning on the course. This unit is designed to prepare the student to embark on his/her Research Project. Students will normally conduct research and this unit introduces the main concepts and techniques involved in research in the field of business, management and other areas of professional development in order to help students to develop their understanding and skills of research in a management context.

UNIT 8: RESEARCH PROJECT (10 CREDITS)

Students will undertake a major managerial research project as part of their studies. Generally the aim of the project is to extend and unify students' understanding of the subjects as developed in taught units. Throughout this period of study students will be building a perspective of the relationship between the units covered in the course. This view will be extended, considered and clarified through the practical, problem-solving nature of the project. Students are expected to apply the new knowledge and techniques learnt during the course to the project in the form of new knowledge, skills and tools.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Entry requirements for this course are as follows:

- Be in possession of Minimum Level 4 certification from a recognised local or foreign awarding body, or;
- A-level standard of education, or;
- be in possession of a School Leaving Certificate, or;
- have at least 5 years-experience in a management position.
- Have a good command of oral and written communication in English with a level of proficiency in English equivalent to at least IELTS Level 5.